

CAGNES-SUR-MER [L-H] - 30 January

Race 1 - PRIX DES BOUTONS D'OR - 2400m CLM CL3 HCP. Purse EUR €15,000.

1. **TALAP** - Was beaten just 0.8 lengths when second at his latest appearance at this track over 2000m. Expected to be very competitive.
2. **AKYO** - Stepping up in trip after finishing 12th over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time out. Can improve and should figure in the finish.
3. **ROYAL RIGHT** - Last appeared three-and-a-half months ago when he finished 8 lengths from the winner in 12th over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather. Definite each-way hope.
4. **ARTURO** - Has been out of the money recently including last start when seventh over 2000m at this track eight days ago beaten 6 lengths. Tested again.
5. **LEXINGTON GOLD** - Has been out of the money recently including last time out when eighth over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer a week-and-a-half ago beaten 2.25 lengths. Prefer to see him back in form.
6. **SMART COOKIE** - Stepping up in trip after finishing fourth over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer last time out. Can improve on the latest effort and is expected to be in the finish.

Summary: TALAP (1) powered home for a 0.75L second here last time. Extra 400m will suit and expected to take beating. SMART COOKIE (6) returned to form just missing the placings. Struggling for some time prior however comes well weighted on best efforts. ROYAL RIGHT (3) can be excused a disappointing run in latest. Better judged on a neck second at Saint Cloud. Keep safe. AKYO (2) is a potential threat to all with conditions suiting.

Selections

TALAP (1) - SMART COOKIE (6) - ROYAL RIGHT (3) - AKYO (2)

Race 2 - PRIX DES SEMBOULES - 1300m MDN. Purse EUR €23,000.

1. **FALCON** - Returns after a spell of three months. Form at the end of last prep was not flash the most recent effort a sixth over 2000m at Lyon-Parilly. Others make more appeal.

2. **BO LYWOOD** - Made little impression on debut over 1500m Cagnes-sur-Mer when seventh beaten 11 lengths. Doubt he will trouble these.

3. **BRAZIL** - Ran a better race last start to finish second at this track over 1300m. Nicely placed and rates highly off that run. Can go one better.

4. **L'OPEN** - Beaten 1.3 lengths into second at this track two starts ago then appeared at this track last time and finished 3.5 lengths from the winner in fourth. Sure to be thereabouts.

5. **LE CENTRAL** - Met a small field on debut at his only start back on June 5 and was beaten 19 lengths into sixth at Chantilly over 1100. Might need some more time.

6. **NOLITO** - Encouraging first-up run when third at Cagnes-sur-Mer over 1500m on January 18. Fitter for that run and will be tough to beat.

7. **TELL ME WHY** - Debuted at Cagnes-sur-Mer a week-and-a-half ago and turned in a handy run when 0.8 lengths away in second over 1500m. Rates highly and can get off the mark.

8. **OPERA** - Yet to finish in the placings from three career runs the latest effort a fifth over 1800m at Lyon-la-Soie. Best efforts give her a chance.

9. **MAMAMOUCHI** - Drops in distance from the latest effort when third over 1600m at this track finishing 4.5 lengths off the winner. Major player.

Summary: TELL ME WHY (7) shaped extremely well beaten just 0.8L third on debut. Can only improve and will take beating if doing so. NOLITO (6) rallied for a 2L second on reappearance. Big winning claims second up. BRAZIL (3) was beaten just a head in a claimer last time. Easy to fancy. MAMAMOUCHI (9) is consistent. Rates a solid each way option.

Selections

TELL ME WHY (7) - NOLITO (6) - BRAZIL (3) - MAMAMOUCHI (9)

Race 3 - PRIX DE GRIMAUD - 2150m MDN. Purse EUR €23,000.

1. **VIDALGO** - Safely held at only appearance when sixth at Munich in November but it was on a heavy track. Want to have another look at him.

2. **BACK TO BLACK** - Returned from a spell last start with a solid second beaten 0.8 lengths at Cagnes-sur-Mer All Weather over 2000m. Fitter for that run and will be tough to beat.

3. **WAY TO MARSEILLE** - Has opened his career in good style with two minor placings from three starts. Finished second at his most recent appearance over 2150m at this track. Sure to be tough to beat.

4. **LUCKY IN LOVE** - Didn't show a great deal on debut over 2000m at Pau All Weather on December 14. Hard to enthuse.

5. **PATZESTEVE** - Was beaten a fair way on debut last time out when seventh over 2150m at Lyon-la-Soie. Likely improver.

6. **MAKANAO** - Kicked off his career with a moderate eighth beaten 9 lengths over 2150m at this track two weeks ago. Fitter and can improve.

7. **LIARI** - Son of Cracksman from Lidiyana making his debut. Leading trainer. A betting push will add to the confidence.

8. **SWEET DEVILDARLING** - Gelding by Chichi Creasy from Et Pourtant on debut. Respect any positive betting move.

Summary: BACK TO BLACK (2) returned with a 0.75L second at this track. Can progress for that outing and sets the standard. Clearly the one to beat. WAY TO MARSEILLE (3) stayed on for a 2.5L second at this journey when last seen. Return here suits and may improve further again. Key player. LIARI (7) is a nicely bred son of Cracksman. Represents top trainer and likely to be primed. Keep safe. PATZESTEVE (5) holds place claims second up.

Selections

BACK TO BLACK (2) - WAY TO MARSEILLE (3) - LIARI (7) - PATZESTEVE (5)

Race 4 - PRIX DES ILES DES EMBIEZ - 2150m CL3. Purse EUR €19,000.

1. **WATCH IT** - Finally broke through for a maiden win two starts back after 11 attempts before finishing tenth beaten 14 lengths last time over 3200m at this track. Capable of featuring on best form.
2. **ZULU NYALA** - Has been very ordinary since winning at Fontainebleau four starts back. Beaten 4.5 lengths when sixth over 2150m at this track last start. Prepared to overlook.
3. **JOH SPIRIT** - Comes here after finishing eighth last time at this track and distance beaten 5.5 lengths. Top-three candidate.
4. **AGADOR** - Returns from a brief spell. Undefeated in two first-up runs. Expected to make a bright return. Top trainer prepares.
5. **LA MANDOLA** - Returned from a layoff last start and was beaten 7 lengths into fourth over 2500m at this track. Fitter for that run and expected to be in the finish this time.
6. **CUNCERTO** - Nice return last start when third at Pau All Weather over 2000m on January 13. Sure to run well.
7. **POLDINO** - Four-year-old gelding who debuted at this track over 2150m beaten 11.75L at big odds. Needs plenty of improvement to play a role here.
8. **ORIENTAL DIAMOND** - Resumed at Deauville All Weather over 1900m last time out and finished fourth beaten 3.5 lengths. Rates highly and can do much better this time.
9. **GINETTE** - Didn't inspire again last start beaten 9 lengths over 2500m at Deauville All Weather. Will need to improve sharply on recent form.

Summary: AGADOR (4) has won twice and placed in three starts so far. Smart prospect set to prove better than this grade. Major winning chance. LA MANDOLA (5) secured placings both previous starts at this journey. Showed promise on reappearance and could improve. Keep safe. CUNCERTO (6) only missed the frame tackling group company. Likeable and shaped well when beaten 4.5L at Pau on return from a lengthy absence. Keep safe second up. ORIENTAL DIAMOND (8) holds each way claims.

Selections

AGADOR (4) - LA MANDOLA (5) - CUNCERTO (6) - ORIENTAL DIAMOND (8)

Race 5 - PRIX DE COGOLIN - 2150m MDN. Purse EUR €23,000.

1. **OCTOBER CHOPE** - Well held last start when fifth over 1500m at Marseille Vivaux to continue a run of plain efforts.
2. **HOLY ADDRESS** - Finished 15 lengths back in 12th on debut over 2150m at this track last start. Needs to do more.
3. **SPEED DE CERISY** - Made her debut over 1500m at this track last start and was well in the market but could only finish seventh beaten 4.5 lengths. Tackles a longer journey this time. Can break through with that experience under her belt.
4. **YES ZARA** - Was safely held on debut last start when 11th and beaten 6 lengths over 1900m at Deauville All Weather.
5. **BLUE SHADE** - Resumes today after showing glimpses of ability in her first campaign. At the latest outing she finished fourth over 1900m at Chantilly All Weather on October 30. Has upside and is expected to go well.
6. **PLUIE D'ETOILES** - Was safely held on debut last start finishing 9 lengths adrift in eighth at this track over 1500m. Has a claiming apprentice aboard. No surprise to see her in the finish.
7. **INCLINATION** - Finished 3 lengths back in fifth on debut over 2150m at this track last start. Better for that experience and can measure up.
8. **VIVAIBERICA** - Finished 4 lengths back in sixth on debut over 2150m at this track last start. The race experience will be invaluable. Among the leading chances.
9. **MANKO** - Three-year-old filly who punters have shunned in recent times and she's been running accordingly. Can't see her breaking through for the maiden win this time.
10. **LA TREILLE** - Showed ability when with a nice placing at debut at Pau All Weather but hasn't been able to go on with that form. Can do a lot better than that last run.
11. **GYPSE D'ANGE** - First up since her debut four-and-a-half months ago when an ordinary 11th over 1600m at Lyon-Parilly. Hard to enthuse on that effort.

Summary: BLUE SHADE (5) has achieved the highest rating of these on form so far. Received a three month break following 4.5L fourth at Chantilly and resumes in a winnable race. Expected to take beating. INCLINATION (7) shaped with promise when 2.75L fifth here first up. Can only improve so look to keep safe. VIVAIBERICA (8) finished beaten just 4L on debut. Will progress and is easy to fancy. SPEED DE CERISY (3) was well supported delivering initial outing however the run proved below expectations. Interesting to see if any money comes once more.

Selections

BLUE SHADE (5) - INCLINATION (7) - VIVAIBERICA (8) - SPEED DE CERISY (3)

Race 6 - PRIX DE SAN REMO - 2000m HCP CL3. Purse EUR €20,000.

1. **MANNE** - Capable galloper but has been out of the placings at her last few runs the latest when fourth over 2000m at this track. Well-placed so expect a lot more.
2. **WALDKAUZ** - Hasn't been competitive lately last start finishing a 8 length 11th over 1600m at this track. Unlikely to threaten.
3. **BENE BENE** - Backs up quickly after a strong effort last start. Won third-up previously and will appreciate the longer journey. Improver. One of the leading hopes.
4. **LEJENDARIO** - Broke a long drought last time when he scored by a nose at Lyon-la-Soie over 2150m. Great chance to win again. Take seriously.
5. **HUNTBA** - Broke a long drought last time when he scored by 0.8 lengths at this track over 2000m. Chance again.
6. **LE PARRAIN** - Struggling for form of late the latest effort a 11 length 14th over 1600m at this track. Disappointing form likely to continue.
7. **VILLA ROYALE** - Finished sixth last start over 2600m at Marseille Vivaux. More needed.
8. **DRAGON LOVE** - Stepping up in trip after finishing 11th over 1600m at this track last time out. Can improve and is a top-three contender.
9. **TRIMLIGHT** - Has been out of the money in recent runs including last time out when fifth over 1600m at this track a week-and-a-half ago beaten 2.75 lengths. One at value.
10. **SEKKU** - Finished 11th last start over 2150m at Lyon-la-Soie. Fills an occasional placing.
11. **KARYNIA** - Started at a big quote first up and finished a modest seventh over 2000m at this track a week ago. Must go to a new level to compete in this line-up.

Summary: LEJENDARIO (4) showed a great attitude getting up in the final strides when a nose winner at Lyon La Soie last time. Up in weight but remains a key player. BENE BENE (3) placed on both preps. Now third up looks primed to strike. Keep safe. SEKKU (10) is very much of interest judging on a 1.2L third at Marseille Vivaux two starts back. Disappointed subsequently but worth another chance. MANNE (1) has won twice here previously. Well weighted and holds each way claims.

Selections

LEJENDARIO (4) - BENE BENE (3) - SEKKU (10) - MANNE (1)

Race 7 - PRIX DU SERPOLET - 2000m HCP CL3. Purse EUR €15,000.

1. **THE MANAGER** - Hasn't won in two-and-a-half years. Finished fourth beaten 1.1 lengths last start over 2000m at Marseille Vivaux. Has ability and looks one of the major players.
2. **HIGHLAND PRECIOUS** - Form since resuming has been quite poor including a tenth last time out over 2400m at this track. Easy one to rule out.
3. **MORAL GAGNANT** - Veteran gelding who has been well held at the last couple starts the latest when beaten 5 lengths into seventh over 2150m at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Has ability and can improve.
4. **PERISTERA** - Finished 5 lengths back when a disappointing tenth last time over 2000m at Marseille Vivaux. Needs to improve sharply.
5. **QUEEN MOON** - Maiden galloper yet to fill a placing in nine runs. Not far away last time when beaten 3 lengths into fourth over 2150m at Lyon-la-Soie. Things looking a bit brighter now and she can sneak into the finish.
6. **GIANTISSIME** - Beaten 0.7 lengths into third at Marseille Vivaux two starts ago then appeared at Lyon-la-Soie last time and finished 3.5 lengths from the winner in eighth. Strong contender on best form.
7. **MEJAEN** - Finds it hard to win. Has just 10 wins and 29 minor placings from 127 starts. Last start finished ninth over 2400m at this track beaten 7 lengths. Others rate better.
8. **MARGUNS** - Was beaten just 0.8 lengths when second at her latest appearance at Lyon-la-Soie over 1800m. Tough to beat.
9. **WAYNE** - Has been out of the money in recent runs including last time out when fourth over 2000m at Marseille Vivaux three weeks ago beaten 1.1 lengths. Tough to beat if near his best.
10. **SPIRIT OF GLORY** - Stepping out for his 7th run back from a break looking to snap a poor run of current form. Prepared to leave alone today.

Summary: MARGUNS (8) was doing his best work late when beaten 0.75L at Lyon La Soie. Extra 200m to suit and rates a big chance of shedding the maiden tag. WAYNE (9) won at Chantilly three starts ago. Performed creditably on both outings since and expect another bold showing. THE MANAGER (1) is consistent. Solid each way option. QUEEN MOON (5) rates well on latest 3L fourth at Lyon La Soie. Improving and a potential threat to all.

Selections

MARGUNS (8) - WAYNE (9) - THE MANAGER (1) - QUEEN MOON (5)